

1 I Claim:

2 1. A brassiere comprising:

3 a. two cups, each cup having an inner surface;

4 b. an elastic band attached to each of said cups and securing said
5 cups to a torso of a wearer;

6 c. two cup liners, one of said cup liners being attached to one of
7 said inner surfaces of one of said cups, the other said cup liner being
8 attached to the other said inner surface of the other of said cups;

9 d. an antimicrobial fiber, each of said cup liners comprising said
10 antimicrobial fiber, said antimicrobial fiber contacting a skin of a breast area
11 of said wearer, said antimicrobial fiber thereby controlling microbes on said
12 skin of said breast area of said wearer.

1 2. The brassiere of claim 1 wherein said antimicrobial fiber is a synthetic
2 fiber comprising a synthetic fiber resin compounded with a silver sodium
3 hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin, said silver sodium hydrogen zirconium
4 phosphate resin being present in said antimicrobial fiber in an amount
5 sufficient to exert an antimicrobial effect on said skin of said breast area of
6 said wearer.

1 3. The brassiere of claim 2 wherein said silver sodium hydrogen
2 zirconium phosphate resin comprises 2% or less by weight of said fiber and
3 the balance of said fiber being selected from the group consisting of
4 polyester, nylon and acetate.

1 4. The brassiere of claim 3 wherein 10% by weight of said silver sodium
2 hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin consists of silver.

1 5. The brassiere of claim 3 wherein 3.8 % by weight of said silver sodium
2 hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin consists of silver.

1 6. The brassiere of claim 3 wherein 3.1% by weight of said silver sodium
2 hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin consists of silver.

1 7. The brassiere of claim 3 further comprising:

2 a. two shoulder straps, one of said shoulder straps being attached
3 to one of said cups and passing over a shoulder of said wearer, the other of
4 said shoulder straps being attached to the other of said cups and passing
5 over another shoulder of said wearer;

6 b. two pockets, each pocket being defined by one of said cup
7 liners and one of said interior surfaces of said cups, each of said pockets
8 being adapted to receive a prosthesis.

1 8. The brassiere of claim 7 wherein said cups are detachable one from
2 the other to allow front opening, said brassiere further comprising:

3 a. a plurality of front hooks attached to one of said cups;

4 b. a plurality of front loops attached to the other of said cups, said
5 hooks and said loops adapted to engage one with the other, said hooks and
6 said loops thereby releasably engaging one cup to the other;

7 c. a pad appearing on an inside surface of said brassiere, said pad
8 disposed between said front hooks and said skin of said wearer to prevent

9 contact between said front hooks and said front loops and said skin of said
10 wearer.

1 9. A brassiere, the brassiere comprising:

2 a. two cups, each of said cups having an inside surface;

3 b. an elastic strap, said elastic strap securing said cups to a torso
4 of a wearer;

5 c. each of said inside surfaces of said cups comprising an
6 antimicrobial fiber, said antimicrobial fiber being held in contact with a skin
7 of a breast area of said wearer by said cups and said elastic strap.

1 10. The brassiere of claim 9 wherein said antimicrobial fiber is a synthetic
2 fiber comprising a synthetic fiber resin compounded with a silver sodium
3 hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin, said silver sodium hydrogen zirconium
4 phosphate resin being present in said antimicrobial fiber in an amount
5 sufficient to exert an antimicrobial effect on said skin of said breast area of
6 said wearer.

1 11. The brassiere of claim 10 wherein said silver sodium hydrogen
2 zirconium phosphate resin comprises 2% or less by weight of said fiber and
3 the balance of said fiber being selected from the group consisting of
4 polyester, nylon and acetate.

1 12. The brassiere of claim 11 wherein 10% by weight of said silver
2 sodium hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin consists of silver.

1 13. The brassiere of claim 11 wherein 3.8% by weight of said silver
2 sodium hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin consists of silver.

1 14. The brassiere of claim 11 wherein 3.1% by weight of said silver
2 sodium hydrogen zirconium phosphate resin consists of silver.

1 15. The brassiere of claim 14 further comprising:

2 a. two support panels, one of said support panels being attached
3 to one of said cups and the other of said support panels being attached to
4 the other of said cups;

5 b. two underwire assemblies, one of said underwire assemblies
6 being attached to one of said support panels and the other of said underwire
7 assemblies being attached to the other of said support panels.

1 16. The brassiere of claim 15 wherein said support panels comprise said
2 antimicrobial fiber.